

WALLOPS FLIGHT FACILITY LOCAL INFORMATION GUIDE

Introduction

Welcome to NASA-Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. The Wallops Flight Facility supports a wide variety of projects for a diverse customer base. These projects range from small rockets, balloons and aircraft, to orbital spacecraft. Services include project management, engineering, fabrication, testing, and operational support.

Bounded by the Atlantic Ocean on the east and the Chesapeake Bay on the West, the Eastern Shore is a quiet place of great natural beauty. A rich history graces the area with numerous historic homes, churches, museums, and landmarks inviting visitors to explore the past. Major festivals and events are staged annually by local communities to celebrate the heritage of the area. The outdoorsman will find excellent fishing, crabbing, camping, hunting, boating, sailing and swimming. A short distance to the north, Ocean City, Maryland, offers all the attractions of a seaside resort with a convention center providing name entertainment, concerts, and cultural events. The area colleges and the Salisbury Civic Center stage concerts and athletic and cultural events.

This document will acquaint you with facilities, services, and activities available at Wallops and surrounding communities for your off-duty hours.

We hope your stay on the Eastern Shore proves worthwhile both professionally and personally.

Location

The Wallops Flight Facility is located in Accomack County on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, 5 miles south of the Maryland state line, and is part of the Delmarva Peninsula (Delaware, Maryland, Virginia). The facility is approximately 90 miles north of Norfolk, Virginia, and 160 miles southeast of Washington, DC.

Wallops consists of 6,200 acres divided among three separate parcels of real property – the Main Base, Wallops Island, and the Wallops Mainland. The Main Base is home to most of NASA's administrative, engineering, fabrication, testing, and project management activities, as well as the Research Airport and Range Control Center. The Mainland and Wallops Island are located approximately 7 miles to the southeast, adjacent to the Atlantic Ocean. Wallops Island is the site of the Wallops Launch Range and many supporting facilities.

Nearby East Coast cities:

<u>City</u>	<u>Road Miles</u>	<u>Approximate Driving Time</u>
Wilmington, Delaware	142	2.8 hours
Dover, Delaware	108	2.2 hours
Washington, DC*	160	3.2 hours
Salisbury, Maryland	42	0.8 hour
Annapolis, Maryland*	125	2.5 hours
Ocean City, Maryland	50	1.0 hour
Baltimore, Maryland*	143	2.9 hours
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	170	3.4 hours
Atlantic City, New Jersey	209	4.2 hours
Norfolk, Virginia**	90	2.2 hours
Williamsburg, Virginia**	133	3.0 hours
Richmond, Virginia**	190	3.8 hours
Pocomoke City, Maryland	14	0.3 hour
Crisfield, Maryland	34	1.0 hour
Onancock, Virginia	25	0.8 hour

*The Chesapeake Bay Bridge has a \$2.50 toll eastbound.

**The Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel has a \$10.00 toll each way.

Climate

Wallops Island has a temperate climate with hot summers and cold winters. The prevailing wind is from the south during the summer and from the northwest during the winter months with a yearly average velocity of 8 knots (9+ miles per hour). The average annual precipitation is 37 inches. The normal high temperature during the summer months is 83°F and the normal low in the winter is 29°F.

Transportation

US Airways Express offers flights from Salisbury-Wicomico Regional Airport to Baltimore-Washington International Airport, Ronald Reagan National Airport, and Philadelphia International Airport. Air service is also available from Norfolk International Airport. (There is no commuter service from Norfolk to Salisbury.)

Bus – Carolina Trailways Bus Line operates regularly along US Hwy 13 from T's Corner, Oak Hall, Virginia. Call 757-824-5935 for schedules and reservations.

Taxi – Miracles TaxiCab Service, Hallwood, Virginia. Call 757-824-6233 for pick-up.

Local Transit – Star Transit, Parksley, Virginia. Call 757-665-1994 for schedules and fares.

Rental Cars – Major rental car services are available in Salisbury, Maryland. Additional rental agencies are located in Pocomoke City, Maryland. Due to our remote location, use of an automobile is highly recommended.

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| • Avis Rent A Car | (toll-free) | 800-831-2147 |
| • Enterprise, Pocomoke City, MD | | 410-957-3472 |
| • Hertz Rent A Car | (toll-free) | 800-654-3131 |
| • National Car Rental Interrent, Salisbury, MD | | 410-749-2450 |
| • U-Save Auto Rental, Pocomoke City, MD | | 410-957-1421 |

Lodging

Hotels, motels, bed and breakfast properties, and vacation cottages are available in the area for temporary lodging. However, because the area is rural with heavy tourist traffic during the summer months, the supply and cost of lodging vary significantly. Temporary lodging arrangements should be made in advance of any planned visit to the area. Sources for lodging can be found at the following chambers of commerce web sites:

- Eastern Shore of Virginia Chamber of Commerce at <http://www.esva.net/~esvachamber/>
- Chincoteague Island, Virginia, at <http://www.chincoteague.com/>
- Pocomoke City, Maryland, at <http://www.pocomoke.com/>
- Ocean City, Maryland, at <http://www.ocean-city.com/>
- Salisbury, Maryland, at <http://www.salisburyarea.com/>
- Somerset County, Maryland, at http://www.skipjack.net/le_shore/visitsomerset/
- Wicomico County, Maryland, Tourism Council at <http://www.wicomicotourism.org/>
- Worcester County, Maryland, at http://skipjack.net/le_shore/visitworchester/tourism.html

Churches and Other Houses of Worship

Many churches and other houses of worship are located on the Delmarva Peninsula. Consult the local telephone directories for information on services.

Organizations

There are many social, civic, and fraternal organizations on the Delmarva Peninsula. See the local telephone directories for contact information.

NASA/Wallops Visitor Center

The Wallops Flight Facility Visitor Center and Gift Shop is located on Virginia Route 175 about 1 mile east of the Wallops Main Gate. The Visitor Center, Gift Shop, and Education Resource Center are part of the Robert L. Kreiger Education Center. A collection of spacecraft and flight articles, as well as exhibits about the United States space flight program, is on display. Special movies and video presentations can be viewed, and special events such as model rocket launches are scheduled. There is no admission charge. Call 757-824-1344 for details or visit the web site at <http://www.wff.nasa.gov/pages/visitor.html>.

Beaches

There are federal, state, and local swimming beaches and parks located at Ocean City, Assateague Island, Chincoteague Island, and other points throughout the area. For further information, contact the following offices:

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| • Ocean City Chamber of Commerce | 410-213-0552 |
| • Virginia Division of Parks
Richmond, Virginia | 804-786-2132 |
| • State of Maryland Forest and Park Services
Annapolis, Maryland | 410-269-3776 |
| • Assateague Island National Seashore/Main Office
Berlin, Maryland | 410-641-1441 |
| • Assateague Island National Seashore/District Office,
Assateague Island, Virginia | 757-336-6577 |
| • Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge
Assateague Island, Virginia | 757-336-6122 |

Golf Courses

There are several public golf courses on the Delmarva Peninsula. Contact each course directly for details.

<u>Golf Course</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Information</u>
Captain's Cove Assateague Greens Bay Club	Greenbackville, VA Ocean City, MD Berlin, MD	757-824-5478 (local call) 410-213-7526 410-641-4081 http://www.thebayclub.com
Beach Club Golf Links Creek Club Deer Run Eagle's Landing	Berlin, MD Berlin, MD Berlin, MD Berlin, MD	410-641-4653 877-280-4653 (toll free) 888-790-4465 (toll free) 800-283-3846 (toll free) http://www.eagleslandinggolf.com
Great Hope	Westover, MD	800-537-8009 (toll free) http://www.greathopegolf.com
Horse Bridge Nassawango Country Club Links at Lighthouse Sound	Salisbury, MD Snow Hill, MD Bishopville, MD	410-543-4446 410-957-2262 (local call) 888-554-4557 (toll free) http://lighthousesound.com
Nutters Crossing	Salisbury, MD	800-615-4657 (toll free) http://www.nutterscrossing.com
Ocean City Golf and Yacht	Ocean City, MD	800-442-3570 (toll free) http://ocgolfandyacht.com
Ocean Resorts Pine Shore River Run	Berlin, MD Berlin, MD Berlin, MD	410-641-5643 410-641-5100 800-733-7786 (toll free) http://www.riverrungolf.com
Rum Pointe	Berlin, MD	800-809-4653 (toll free) http://www.rumpointe.com
Winter Quarters	Pocomoke City, MD	410-957-1171 (local call)

There are also numerous miniature golf courses in the area. Consult local telephone directories for addresses and contact information.

Horse Racing

Live harness racing is available during the summer months at Ocean Downs located at routes 50 and 589 near Ocean Pines, Maryland. There are also year-around satellite simulcasts from other racetracks in North America, both harness and thoroughbred. Call 410-641-0600 or visit the web site at <http://www.oceandowns.com/> for directions and current schedules.

Professional Baseball

The Delmarva Shorebirds is a Class "A" affiliate of the Baltimore Orioles. The regular season runs from April through August at the Arthur W. Perdue Stadium near Salisbury, Maryland. Call 1-888-BIRDS 96 (1-888-247-3796) for ticket information or visit the web site at <http://www.theshorebirds.com/>.

Boating

Public boat ramps are available at most locales that have access to creeks, rivers, the Chesapeake Bay, Chincoteague Bay, or the Atlantic Ocean. There are several private yacht clubs throughout the area, as well. Boat (canoe/kayak) rentals and charters are available on Chincoteague Island, at Shad Landing in the Pocomoke River State Park, on the Pocomoke River in Snow Hill, in Ocean City, and at other places along the Shore.

Camping

Campgrounds and trailer parks are located throughout the Delmarva Peninsula. See local telephone directories for private facilities. State parks that permit camping include the following:

- Assateague. Nine miles south of Ocean City, Maryland, on State Route 611, telephone 410-641-2120.
- Pocomoke River State Park Milburn Landing. Seven miles northeast of Pocomoke City, Maryland, on State Route 364, telephone 410-632-2566.
- Pocomoke River State Park Shad Landing. Four miles southwest of Snow Hill, Maryland, on US Route 113, telephone 410-632-2566.

Museums

- NASA/Wallops Visitor Center, Wallops Island, Virginia
- City Hall Museum, Salisbury, Maryland
- Ward Foundation Museum, Salisbury, Maryland
- Oyster Museum, Chincoteague, Virginia
- Refuge Waterfowl Museum, Chincoteague, Virginia
- Julia A. Purnell Museum, Snow Hill, Maryland
- Railroad Museum, Parksley, Virginia

Library

While there is no general library at WFF, NASA maintains a very good scientific and technical library in Building E-105, Main Base. Local and national newspapers and periodicals are available on site, as well as computers with access to the Internet. The library is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Nearby public libraries are listed below:

- Eastern Shore Public Library
Accomac, VA 757-824-5151
Chincoteague Island Branch 757-336-3460
- Wicomico County Library
Salisbury, MD 410-749-3612
- Worcester County Library
Pocomoke Branch 410-957-0878
Snow Hill Branch 410-632-2600
Berlin Branch 410-641-0650
Ocean City Branch 410-289-7297

Recreational Use of Wallops Island

Hunting and fishing are permitted on Wallops Island after working hours and on weekends when operations are not in progress. Hunting licenses are required and may be purchased for a nominal fee. Call extension 1097 for information on licensing requirements.

Physical Fitness Facilities

Wallops maintains a fitness facility, which includes a gymnasium, weight room, Nautilus equipment room, locker rooms, and saunas. Guest memberships are available. The Morale Activities Committee (MAC) manages the fitness facility. Call extension 1244 for further information.

Shopping

<u>Shopping Area</u>	<u>Distance from Wallops</u>	<u>Population</u>	
Salisbury, Maryland	42 miles north	40,000	The major metropolitan area on Maryland's Lower Eastern Shore. There are several major chain department stores, three shopping centers/malls, major chain supermarkets, theaters, restaurants, banks, and specialty stores.
Pocomoke, Maryland	14 miles north	4,000	This small town provides a full service shopping area with a department store, hardware and building supply stores, discount chain store, car dealerships, drug stores, supermarkets, banks, and restaurants.
Ocean City, Maryland	50 miles north	8,000 winter 150,000 summer	This resort area has factory outlet stores, several shopping centers/malls, specialty shops, souvenir shops, restaurants, and movie theaters.
Chincoteague, Virginia	8 miles east	8,000 winter; 20,000 summer	This small community provides a local shopping area consisting of dry goods stores, hardware stores, drug store, gift shops, banks, restaurants, and a movie theater. Some businesses operate only during the summer tourist season.
Onley/Onancock, Virginia	25 miles south	2,000	Located on the Chesapeake Bay, these communities offer small shopping centers and a downtown shopping area, a department store, supermarkets, banks, restaurants, specialty shops, hardware stores, and a movie theater.

Annual Events

Most annual events occur between March and November. The following local web pages provide events calendars in addition to information on lodging, dining, and recreation in the area:

- Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel at <http://www.cbbt.com/index.html>
- Cape Charles and Northampton Chamber of Commerce at <http://www.ccncchamber.com/>
- Eastern Shore of Virginia Chamber of Commerce at <http://www.esva.net/~esvachamber/>
- Chincoteague Island, Virginia, at <http://www.chincoteague.com/>
- Eastern Shore Federal Wildlife Service at <http://easternshore.fws.gov/>
- Pocomoke City, Maryland, at <http://www.pocomoke.com/>
- Ocean City, Maryland, at <http://www.ocean-city.com/>
- Salisbury, Maryland, at <http://www.salisburyarea.com/>
- Somerset County, Maryland, at http://www.skipjack.net/le_shore/visitsomerset/
- Wicomico County, Maryland, Tourism Council at <http://www.wicomicotourism.org/>
- Worcester County, Maryland, at http://skipjack.net/le_shore/visitworchester/tourism.html